The Question Of O9A Membership

Prefatory Note

Given the recurrent and false accusation that the Order of Nine Angles (O9A, ONA) has "members" we republish here two items written a few years ago, and one item written this year, about the matter. Regarding those making and repeating the accusations, as noted in *Vitae Homeri*,

θνητοῖσιν ἀνωΐστων πολέων περ οὐδὲν ἀφραστότερον πέλεται νόου ἀνθρώποισι.

Of all the things that mortals fail to understand, the most incomprehensible is human intent

Perhaps they should have heeded what Sophocles wrote in Oedipus Tyrannus:

οὐκ οἶδ᾽ ἐφ᾽ οἷς γὰρ μὴ φρονῶ σιγᾶν φιλῶ

I do not know: about things I have no knowledge of, I am silent

In regard to the two items republished, as Aristotle wrote in Metaphysics, 982a:

εἶτα τὸν τὰ χαλεπὰ γνῶναι δυνάμενον καὶ μὴ ῥᾴδια ἀνθρώπῳ γιγνώσκειν τοῦτον σοφόν

The wise person is the one able to understand complex matters such as those that seem incomprehensible to [other] mortals

Given their use of fallacies of reasoning the unwise ones have obviously never read Aristotle:

Aristotelis Hermeneutica Analytica Elenctica

Εστι δη των εν τω διαλέγεσθαι λόγων τέτταρα γένη, διδασκαλικοί και διαλεκτικοί και πειραστικοί και εριστικοί [...]

διδασκαλικοί μεν οι εκ των οικείων αρχών εκάστου μαθήματος και ουκ εκ των τού αποκρινομένου δοξών συλλογιζόμενοι (δεῖ γαρ πιστεύειν τον μανθάνοντα), διαλεκτικοί δ' οι εκ των ενδόξων συλλογιστικοί αντιφάσεως, πειραστικοί δ' οι εκ των δοκούντων των αποκρινομένω και αναγκαίων ειδέναι το προσποιουμένω έχειν την επιστήμης (δν τρόπον δε, διώρισται εν ετέροις), εριστικοί δ' οι εκ των φαινομένων ενδόξων μη όντων δε συλλογιστικοί ή φαινόμενοι συλλογιστικοί. περί μεν ούν των αποδεικτικών εν τοῖς Αναλυτικούς είρηται, περί δε των διαλεκτικών και πειραστικών εν τοις άλλοις· περί δε των αγωνιστικών και έριστικών νύν λέγωμεν.

River Isis Collective
June 2023 ev

I.

An Occult Phantom Menace

A journalist - seeking an interview, and with a history of writing about the O9A according to anti-fascist orthodoxy - once asked an O9A comrade of mine the following question: "Are you a genuine member of the Order of Nine Angles?"

Since my O9A comrade did not deign to answer the question and curtly refused the request for an interview, I have decided to answer the question for her.

While a plain "yes" might have sufficed for an answer - and a "yes" which a journalist, and others, could accept or might not accept - the question itself is not that simple, for implicit in it are three causal abstractions, three ideas which require defining/explaining: "genuine" and "member" and "O9A".

While such questions, and my answers, may seem pedantic, they are necessary and indeed important if one is seeking to rationally understand something termed the O9A and seeking to rationally understand "us", we who associate ourselves with "the O9A". And rationally understand as opposed, for example, to formulating or expressing an often hasty often emotive often personal and often journalistic or biased political opinion about "the O9A" and about "us".

A rational understanding which, judging by what that journalist *et al* have written and said over the past few years, is missing from all public and mainstream discourses about the O9A.

What, we ask, is a "genuine" member of the O9A, as opposed, for example, to someone pretending to be or declaring themselves to be a "member" of the O9A, and how is such genuineness to be established? What does "membership" of something termed the O9A mean? And what does the appellation - the term - "Order of Nine Angles" signify and imply?

° Alpha: What is the Order of Nine Angles, the O9A?

Most latter-day journalists, and apparently all anti-fascists, together with some politicians, seem to believe the O9A is a group or organization with members and which group that journalist *et al* classify or describe by other terms such as "satanic" and "neo-nazi" which of themselves require explanation if one really is a questioning, a rational, seeker of aletheia (ἀλήθεια) since, for example, there are several definitions of both "satanic" and "neo-nazi", including how Anton Long - et al, associated with the O9A - understand the terms "satanic" and "neo-nazi". {1}

We and others of our ilk have in recent years answered that alpha question: the O9A is not a group or organization in the conventional - hierarchical, organized - sense but rather is an Occult philosophy - a changing, evolving, sub-culture, a genré, a genus, a "sinister tradition" - which individuals can associate themselves with, or identify with, or believe in. An Occult philosophy whose foundations include Hellenic hermeticism, Greco-Roman paganism, and a Britannic Rounwytha tradition and whose core Occult praxis is the Seven Fold Way. {2}

° Beta: Membership.

Since the O9A, rationally apprehended by a seeker of aletheia, is an Occult philosophy - a changing, evolving, sub-culture, a genré, a genus - there is no membership *per se*. As mentioned by "Stephen Brown" - aka Anton Long - in a letter to "Kimberly" dated 25th September 1992 eh,

> "Being a member of the ONA simply means that the individual follows, or tries to follow, the path to Adeptship as outlined in various works including Naos." {3}

The confusion by non-O9A folk over "membership" seems to have arisen from four causes.

First, by individuals identifying with aspects of O9A philosophy - or who misunderstood O9A philosophy - describing themselves as, or being described by others (such as journalists or anti-fascists) as O9A members.

Second, by aspects of O9A philosophy, and/or aspects of O9A praxis, being misunderstood or misinterpreted, classic examples of which are (i) (mis)describing the O9A as "neo-nazi", (ii) (mis)describing the O9A as misogynist when O9A philosophy is anti-patriarchal, {4} pro-Sapphic, {5} and regards women as "the key to creating, opening – and keeping open – nexions to the acausal," {6} and (iii) (mis)describing the O9A as supporting Social Darwinism - "might is right" - when it regards Social Darwinism and the instinct of "might is right" as de-evolutionary. {7}

Third, because misunderstandings and misinterpretations of O9A philosophy are embedded in parts of that philosophy, forming a mythic labyrinth which the student of O9A philosophy or the aspirant O9A sorcerer or sorceress are expected to find their way through; a kind of "mythic narrative" they can learn from and understand in an esoteric (not an exoteric) context.

> "Such a confusion in great numbers is one of the stated purposes of the Labyrinthos Mythologicus, and it is what makes it inherently elitist at every level. That is to say, it is not elitist because it brags or because there is an authority denying entry, but because it asks from the practitioner a wide variety of abilities, at least in potential, and the willingness to develop them through hard work.
>
> Some of these are stated explicitly, and others are required by the sheer complexity or lack of explanations of certain things, which end up pushing the seriously interested practitioner to find ways, bridge gaps, interpret and discover his own unique way. Being unable to do so, either out of incompetence or mental intransigence, is to be culled by the design of the ONA, or to be culled out of the loop by one’s own mediocrity, incapacity or emotional blockage and blinding (often the case among clever occultists)." {8}

Fourth, because part of the O9A Seven Fold Way, in its early stages, involves the individual novice sorcerer or sorceress forming their own autonomous O9A or O9A-inspired nexion (group, Temple, cell, clan, tribe) and recruiting other individuals to join it and thus become "members" of that nexion, some of which "members" may go on to follow the Seven Fold Way and form their own nexion.

° Gamma: Genuineness

In the matter of being an alleged or a self-declared member of the O9A, how can the genuineness of membership be determined? A laminated membership card complete with O9A logo? A welcome letter from some Leader/Führer/Mage or from some "official representative" giving a PO Box or e-mail address? By contacting some Leader/Führer/Mage in person (or via e-mail) or by contacting some "official representative" operating a PO Box or some e-mail address? Or by showing some newspaper cutting or some book or viewing some web-page or blog where the alleged or self-declared member is described as a member of the O9A?

Naturally not, (i) given the clandestine and illusive nature of "the O9A", as described by anti-fascists, by most journalists, and by some academics. Naturally not, (ii) given that the O9A is, when rationally apprehended by a seeker of aletheia, an Occult philosophy, a changing, evolving, sub-culture, a genré, a genus, a "sinister tradition", an "occult phantom menace", and not a group or organization with a hierarchy and "members". Naturally not, (iii) given the fundamental principle of The Authority Of Individual Judgement which means that no one person, no one nexion, no collocations of O9A nexions, can ever represent the O9A or speak or write "on behalf of the O9A." Naturally not, (iv) because there are no officials, no 'outer representative,' {9} no leader to confer such membership.

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v. 1.09

{1} In regard to National-Socialism, refer to *The Two Interpretations Of National Socialism* included in *O9A: A Modern Heresy*, https://gawathan.files.wordpress.com/2022/12/heresy-second.pdf

{2} The Seven Fold Way is described in the chapter *The Seven Fold Way Of The Order Of Nine Angles* in the 300 page *The Seofonfeald Paeth*, available at https://web.archive.org/web/20210109173432/https://wyrdsister.files.wordpress.com/2019/10/o9a-trilogy-print.pdf

See also the chapter *The Alleged National Socialism Of The O9A* in *The Seofonfeald Paeth*.

{3} The letter is included in facsimile in volume II of *The Satanic Letters of Stephen Brown*. The letters are available from (i) https://archive.org/download/satanicletters-1/satanicletters-1.pdf and (ii) https://archive.org/download/satanicletters-2/satanicletters-2.pdf

The meaning of such 'membership' - such presencing/seeding of the O9A - is explained in Part III: *Membership And The Sinister Game*.

{4} The Anti-Patriarchal O9A Ethos, written in 2017, is included in *The Seofonfeald Paeth* op. cit.

{5} See the novel *Breaking The Silence Down*, which forms part of the O9A Deofel Quintet, available at https://web.archive.org/web/20201024085551/https://omega9alpha.wordpress.com/deofel-quartet/

{6} "It is women who are the key to creating, opening – and keeping open – nexions to the acausal. Thus, in the O9A, women are of fundamental importance, equal partners, and indeed essential to the O9A, with the O9A ethos contrary to and opposed to the misogyny still so rife in the Western world,as elsewhere." *The Anti-Patriarchal O9A Ethos*, included in *The Seofonfeald Paeth* op. cit.

{7} Qv. O9A texts such as (i) Culling As Art, (ii) The De-Evolutionary Nature of Might is Right, and (iii) The Gentleman's – and Noble Ladies – Brief Guide to The Dark Arts. All three texts are included in https://archive.org/download/classic-o9a-texts-9/classic-o9a-texts-9.pdf

{8} Extract from a 2017 article by davidrosalesgiron88 on the Praefuscus Ferrum blog, available at https://web.archive.org/web/20171012003451/https://praefuscusferrum.com /2017/05/21/corpus-nine-thirteen/

Another extract:

> "From its inception, the Seven-Fold Way was intended to see most fail, to see most crumble under pressure, by a reluctance to try again, by carelessness leading to mental or physical injury or destruction. It should be clear to any objective and intelligent student of the materials (not to speak to a practitioner, I presume) that personal discernment is the foremost of all ONA requirements, once a holistic and balanced view of its rather wide assortment of ideas throughout the decades has been at least partially digested.
>
> To even suggest that the failure of many (most?) ONA would-be initiates is a sign of failure of the system, or to suppose that the bickering between ONA-inspired/derived groups implies an alarming state of affairs threatening to take it down, is to not to be able to see beyond the proverbial nose."

As someone using the nym Northwind wrote in 2017:

> "For beginners, the O.N.A. is a total mystery and puzzle – and deliberately so. Try to google the material and you'll find a truckload of it, but after two months of reading you're more confused than from the onset. It takes years to get some manner of grip on it – which is obviously by intentional design, to test the seeker's will and resolve. You'll turn away pretty soon if you do not have this sinister flame burning inside."

{9} The role of 'outer representative' was a jape designed to test a particular person; to ascertain if they had enough knowledge of the O9A and/or the occult or personal skill (empathy, intuition) to realize it was a jape. See the text *Was The O9A* '*Outer Representative*' *Role A Jape?* in *O9A: A Modern Heresy*, https://gawathan.files.wordpress.com/2022/12/heresy-second.pdf

The text includes the following quotation from a 2011 item by Anton Long: that it was

> "just a minor ploy among the many minor and major ploys and tests used during Phase II, and thus was part of the 'sinister game' we have played for several decades. The ploy was for a candidate or an initiate to openly disseminate ONA material, and possibly give interviews about the O9A to the Media, under the guise of having been given some sort of 'authority' to do so even though such an authority – and the necessary hierarchy to gift such authority – was in fact a contradiction of our raison d'être; a fact we of course expected those incipiently of our kind to know or sense."

II.

The Accusation Of Membership Of The O9A

° Accusation: The O9A has members, some of which O9A members have been convicted of sexual offences or have called for sexual violence.

In respect of members, as we and others have repeatedly said and written:

(i) The O9A - being an esoteric philosophy (a sinisterly-numinous mystic tradition, a changing, evolving, sub-culture which individuals sometimes identify with or may be influenced by) and not a group or organization - has no members, and never has had any members.

What that is probative - what evidence admissible in a Court of Law - have that those wh propagate the accusation that those they name as having been convicted of sexual offences or who are alleged to have called for sexual violence are or were "members" of the O9A?

Where, for instance, is the paper or the electronic trail? Where, for instance, is a forensically examined laminated O9A membership card complete with O9A logo? Where is a forensically examined welcome letter or message signed by some Leader/Führer/Mage or by some "official representative" giving a "brick and mortar" address or a PO Box or e-mail address where there is proof (such as fingerprints) of who wrote it or who signed it or who sent it electronically?

No one has ever provided anything probative - any evidence - regarding O9A membership. It seems that the accuser believe that someone saying they are a "member" of the O9A, or someone alleging that a person is a member of the O9A, is evidence of O9A membership. But of course it is not.

There is nothing probative regarding O9A membership, and nothing probative to prove that anyone anywhere is or ever was a member of some entity termed the Order of Nine Angles.

(ii) Those named in respect of sexual crimes may have been interested in the O9A, generally because they have either (a) misunderstood O9A esoteric philosophy based as it is on an individual years-long hermetic quest along the O9A Seven Fold Way, as explained in books such as the 1989 *Naos* text and in the 2019 text *The Seofonfeald Paeth*, or (b) those people have gotten lost in the O9A's Labyrinthos Mythologicus designed as that was to test, select, confuse, mislead and intrigue.

(iii) Having an interest in the O9A, being in possession of O9A literature, displaying the O9A sigil, claiming to be in contact with the O9A, and even calling one's self O9A does not make a person a "member" of the O9A.

(iv) Of people named as being convicted of sexual crimes or who were alleged to have been O9A members when and where did those named individuals say or write that they were members? Where is the paper or the electronic trail, the actual evidence that they said or wrote such a thing?

Is someone saying they are a "member" of the O9A evidence of O9A membership? No, of course not.

Is an allegation that some person is a member of the O9A evidence that the person in question is a member of the O9A? No, it is just hearsay or a malicious allegation.

(v) Even if some individuals convicted of sexual crimes or of inciting sexual violence described themselves as O9A members or associates or as followers of O9A philosophy or as following the Seven Fold Way, then it is illogical to infer that O9A/O9A philosophy/the Seven Fold Way is or are responsible for such crimes, or somehow incited those individuals to do what they did. Illogical because that would be committing the fallacy of *secundum quid et simpliciter* by using the case of one individual or the cases of a few individuals to blame, to castigate, a group or a philosophy.

Would the accusers of the O9A condemn Catholics world-wide, and Christianity as a religion, on the basis that some monks, some priests, some Christian ministers and preachers have been convicted of certain criminal offences involving children? Probably not, as that would be illogical, and yet they persist in irrationally believing and illogically claiming that the O9A encourages and condones sexual abuse, paedophilia and rape because some individuals who may have *claimed* to be members of the O9A or are *alleged* by others to be members of the O9A have been convicted of certain criminal offences even though the O9A is, correctly apprehended, an Occult philosophy, a changing, evolving, sub-culture, a genré, a genus, a 'sinister-numinous tradition' and not some entity which has "members".

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April 2021 ev

III.

Membership And The O9A Sinister Game

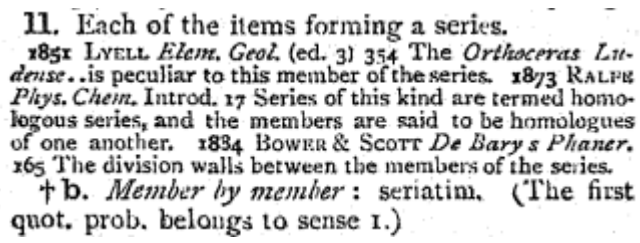
The Sinister Game was described in a 2012 text titled *Playing The Sinister Game – A Brief ONA History* {1} and was developed in the 1970s long before the advent of the public Internet in the days when O9A texts were typewritten and if required photocopied and sent by means of posted letters. One of its early aims was to test and select candidates who desired to join an established nexion and thus be initiated or wanted to learn about satanism and O9A occult traditions.

If a candidate who desired initiation passed the selection process - part of which antinomian process was described in that 2012 text - then they were informed that the O9A did not undertake initiations since it was an Occult philosophy, an Occult tradition, and that it was the individual who had to initiate themselves using a ritual of self-initiation described in a typewritten text and then undertake to follow the Seven Fold Way again as described in a typewritten

text, which texts were first published, with a few amendments, in the 1989 collection of texts titled *Naos*. With only a few exceptions in over two decades the candidates then lost interest in the O9A.

Since the Seven Fold Way involved self-initiation and the task of forming, from scratch, their own group or nexion, recruiting individuals for it, and performing ceremonial rituals, they 'presenced' O9A Occult philosophy, its Occult tradition, and thus 'seeded' the O9A in another locale with the occasional result that one or more of the 'members' of that nexion would go on to follow the Seven Fold Way and thus seed the O9A in a new locale.

That is, they formed a series, a link, and thus were 'members' of that series, that link:



11. Each of the items forming a series.

1851 LYELL *Elem. Geol.* (ed. 3) 354 The *Orthoceras Ludense*..is peculiar to this member of the series. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* Introd. 17 Series of this kind are termed homologous series, and the members are said to be homologues of one another. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 165 The division walls between the members of the series.

† **b.** *Member by member*: seriatim. (The first quot. prob. belongs to sense 1.)

It is this sense that Anton Long, often the pædant - another other things, including the inventor of the O9A's Labyrinthos Mythologicus "designed as that was to test, select, confuse, mislead and intrigue" - used the term 'member' in a 1992 typewritten letter and in other texts.

> "Being a member of the ONA simply means that the individual follows, or tries to follow, the path to Adeptship as outlined in various works including Naos." {2}

As for such 'seeding', a few non-O9A individuals over the decades have understood Anton Long's intent:

> "[Consider the] Order of Nine Angles as a Von Neumann machine but one with an open source code which allows mutation when replicating. As such, the only necessity for such a self-replicating device to work is putting it out there. After that it will do its work no matter if the creators are still involved or even if they remain alive. Once such a machine is set into motion, it remains active." {3}

The quotation was included in the 2013 article *O9A Internet Etiquette Guidelines*, with the author writing that it is

> "a good metaphor for how, exoterically, the O9A works, and has worked, both in the real world, and in cyberspace, with the virtual O9A Von Neumann machines that operate in cyberspace inspiring many, over the past decade, to build their own O9A machines in the real-world and, sometimes, develop newer models."

A few years earlier, on the now defunct *Sinister Times* blog, someone associating themselves with the O9A wrote about the process using another metaphor:

> "We, the world-wide sinister collective known as The Order of Nine Angles, are Open Source sinister software developers. We develop some programs for making human beings work better and in a more sinister way, we release the source code, and then we let people use and run with the software, and adapt it, change it, make it better. We also cooperate among ourselves and with other developers of our type of software to make it better. Other groups (LHP and RHP and so-called satanic) are like closed source, proprietary, software – they restrict access to the source code; they want people to pay for their software. They jealously guard their programs, and tell you it's the best. They hype it, market it, copyright it.
>
> In the Open Source model, it's what works that gets you kudos. We let out sinister software speak for itself."

Which metaphor of the O9A, and especially its Seven Fold Way, as open source software for programming or reprogramming human beings perhaps explains the O9A, and Anton Long's intent, in a way newer generations understand.

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June 20213 ev

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{1} https://web.archive.org/web/20170725192527/https://omega9alpha.wordpress.com/the-sinister-game/

{2} Letter to Kimberly dated 25th September 1992; facsimile in https://archive.org/download/satanicletters-2/satanicletters-2.pdf

{3} pp.90-92 of *Definitive Guide To The Order of Nine Angles*, https://archive.org/download/definitive-guide-to-the-order-of-nine-angles_202201/definitive-guide-to-the-order-of-nine-angles.pdf

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